Texas Travesty

Interview with Edgar Wright, Michael Cera, and Jason Schwartzman

- Does OU also Blow? A Myth Uncovered
- Cooler Coolers!
- Degradation, Misogyny, Subtle Racism & Other Things to Look Forward to this OU Weekend

September 2010
September was a fantastic month for rationalizations as students all over campus talked themselves into accepting bad decisions and flawed logic to make their lives just a little bit easier.

• Tom Franklin knew framing his voice out of my head?
• Shannon Westland decided she didn’t need to go to her geology class because she was busy getting stoned.
• Stacy Roland justified throwing away the pink lid from her yogurt container, because they must be pretty close to solving this whole cancer thing anyway.
• Grace Kim rationalized being Korean. Although she hates it, she recognizes the fact that she was born this way, so it’s probably okay.
• Tom Jennings reminded his girlfriend, “Babe, I keep my cell phone in my front pocket, we don’t need a condom.”
• George Glass maintains that he bought fried REGULAR Oreos, not double-stuffed.
• Shannon Westland decided she didn’t need to go to her geology class because she was busy getting stoned.
• Stacy Roland justified throwing away the pink lid from her yogurt container, because they must be pretty close to solving this whole cancer thing anyway.
• Grace Kim rationalized being Korean. Although she hates it, she recognizes the fact that she was born this way, so it’s probably okay.
• Boot-wearing students with long hair and odd hats will be asked “Are you the King of Leon?”
• Please suppress the urge to yell “Red Rover!” and clothesline somebody when crossing Guadalupe.
• “Yes, what did you think about Plato’s Republic?” “Oh, I was just stretching my arm.”
• Are you really sure this isn’t just a dream within a dream?

RATIONALIZATION OF THE MONTH:
Junior Mark Bentley hijacked the West Campus bus to get to his Economics test on time. Despite not knowing how to properly drive a bus, Bentley did make it to the test in time to get an A and only seven people were critically injured!
UT to provide some thing for everyone
"What the hell is this thing?" entire student body asks

Dan Treadway
MANAGING EDITOR

AUSTIN—In response to the recent budget cuts at the University of Texas, President William Powers Jr. announced the implementation of the “Some Thing for Everyone” program.

"Hey, I’m a nice guy," Powers said while tanning on the balcony of his office on the fourth floor of the Main Building. "In these trying financial times, I wanted to show students and staff that there is a thing of some sort for everyone at UT."

The program, which was designed to win over the UT community, has met with a mixed response from students and faculty members.

"I’m not sure what this thing is exactly," said philosophy junior Shari Tanne as she examined the thing given to her earlier that morning. "It looks like it might be a bumper from a Honda Accord."

President William Powers designed the program to win over UT community, which in recent months has been dismayed by the recent budget cuts that have taken place at the University.

The source of the things distributed are not known precisely, although residents in West Austin witnessed Powers rummaging through his garage all Saturday afternoon and throwing assorted items into the back of a U-Haul truck.

"In these trying financial times, I wanted to show students and staff that there is a thing of some sort for everyone at UT."

"I'm facing a crippling debt of more than $45,000, and with the recently announced 3.95 percent tuition increase, I can't afford to pay my rent this month," said Dave Maclean, a sociology sophomore. "But at least I have this scratched Kenny Loggins CD.'"

The members of the UT Faculty Council displayed their things at the council’s weekly meeting while discussing their various uses. "I respectfully wrote a letter to the Office of the President requesting enough funds to maintain the Vietnamese language program at UT," said a puzzled Joel Bremer, Department Chair of the Asian Studies program. "I received a package in response containing four quarters, a nickel and a half-eaten package of Big League Chew."

While the "Some Thing for Everyone" program hasn’t garnered the unanimous praise its creator hoped it would, it has had some success.

"This thing is pretty awesome," said Jeff Stephens, a mathematics junior. "It still lights up whenever I sling it, and I've been practicing tricks all day. Move out of the way, I'm going to show you how I do 'Around the World.'"

On the heels of the program’s announcement, Powers was informed that Gov. Rick Perry has requested that he slash the UT budget by another ten percent.

In response, an emergency ice cream social has been scheduled in Main Mall. Because it’s likely that UT will be forced to eliminate the College of Natural Sciences due to budgetary constraints, the President has personally guaranteed extra toppings for everyone in attendance.

Anthropology professor can’t hide illiteracy much longer

CAMPUS—Anthropology Professor Richard Greene began to suspect that his students were catching on to his inability to read this past Tuesday when he momentarily forgot the outline his lecture, which was clearly displayed behind him on a Powerpoint presentation put together by his T.A. "I knew this day would come," said Greene, as he attempted to recall the contents of the Taco Bell menu. "The bell rang after two minutes of silence, but they still might have figured out my secret." Greene was last seen trying to decipher a note passed to him by fellow anthropologist Arthur Kendrick during a faculty meeting, even though he had a sneaking suspicion that Kendrick was just as aware as his class about his condition.

Passenger insists they can be dropped off here; this is close enough, really

WEST CAMPUS—While being driven home at 1:04 a.m. on Saturday by her friend Brianna Wilson, junior Allison Brinkley insisted on being dropped off "here," at the corner of 25th and Pearl, even though her apartment is actually on Graham Street, halfway between 25th and 26th. While Wilson kept insisting that, “It’s okay; she can drop her off in front of her apartment,” Brinkley was adamant that the location was close enough, really, to her apartment. "Listen, Bree, this is, like, close enough," Brinkley exclaimed. "Honestly, it’s okay. I can walk the half a block to my complex." Shortly after she was dropped off, Brinkley was mugged while walking to her apartment.

Report: You Might As Well Leave the Christmas Tree Up At This Point

WOONSOCKET, RI—Statistical data gathered by the Department of Labor indicates that, at this point, the American people might as well just leave their Christmas tree up. "Pfft, screw this," said Gordon Billingsley, head of the Department of Labor, told the media as he stared at the 8 foot tree in his living room. "It’s what, October? Just throw a sheet over it and say it’s a ghost." Billingsley’s conclusion falls in line with census data indicating that, while the majority of Americans put the decoration removal on their to-do list this past year, only 0.89 percent actually crossed it off. "We’re excited by these findings,” Billingsley said, “Because I sure as hell didn’t feel like going out to the shed."

Local man trashes new sunglasses after no one notices them

AUSTIN—Area man Donald Young angrily threw away his newly-purchased Ray-Ban tortoise-shell sunglasses upon realizing that no one had complimented them all day. After spending a long afternoon with friends and family at Zilker Park for his niece’s fifth birthday party, Young abruptly left without speaking to anyone. "He kept asking everyone if we had noticed anything different about him," said Donna Smith, his puzzled sister, as she sliced her daughter’s cake. Young refuses to return the $200 name-brand frames, insisting that he would not “admit defeat once again” to the attractive brunette at the sales desk.

Evolved Primates Go Wild in Response to Trucks with Over-sized Wheels

KANSAS CITY, MO—Homo sapiens gathered in the hundreds to perform what is understood to be a series of complicated social interactions stimulated by the presence of trucks with large wheels. Regarded by primate experts as a mating ritual, the trucks serve as the centerpiece as the males beat their chests and yell “Crush them!” to signify their prowess and masculinity. “It’s a remarkable display of aggression and virility,” said field biologist Frank Elmond, pointing to a large male pouring beer over several nearby primates, demonstrating his dominance. “This kind of elaborate interaction takes generations to develop.” Elmond was overjoyed as he was involved in the ritual by being picked up by several younger males and was thrown into the dumpster outside.
Freshman has “rowing team” written all over him

David McQuary
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

AUSTIN—Last Monday, representatives from UT Monday, decided that freshman Scott Moreno had “Rowing Team” written all over him as they observed him walking out of Gregory Gymnasium.

“His burnt orange gym shorts exhibited the ideal combination of drive, calm and boring that will make him a great recruit for the squad,” said Ron Glaser, the crew’s chesty team captain.

When he first saw Moreno walking through the crowd, Glaser immediately turned to his co-captain Dave Spurling, pointed at the Moreno’s broad shoulders and empty eyes and said, “That’s our guy, get ready.” The two “athletes” then motioned for Moreno to speak with them about their “sporting” or organization.

After introducing themselves, Glaser and Spurling began complimenting Moreno’s large biceps — Glaser asking,

“You’d be really surprised by the awesome leadership experience you’ll gain by making the same arm motion for days on end.”

“Do you work out often?” When Moreno explained that he mostly did pull-ups and bench press, the co-captains nodded in unison and said, “Perfect.”

Glaser proceeded to explain the benefits of joining the rowing team, emphasizing that it is a fun and exciting way to get in shape; the shape being: “top-heavy and lifeless.”

“I’ve been selling freshman on the whole ‘It’s important to get involved during your first year’ thing,” said Glaser, “But if we had a lot of friends, we probably wouldn’t be out by Gregory recruiting people for crew.”

Glaser and Spurling successfully convinced Moreno that members really get to know their crewmates after sitting directly behind them in a boat for hours on end. Spurling added, “Yeah, you’d be really surprised by the awesome leadership experience you’ll gain by making the same arm motion for days on end.”

During their pitch, the two representatives chose to omit the fact that Moreno would need to be on Town Lake every morning by sunrise to begin practice. However, the freshman’s dim personality and drone-like body language told them he most likely wouldn’t complain anyway.

“I don’t know, it sounds kinda cool,” replied Moreno. After spending a few seconds to wonder if the 4:00 a.m. practices might conflict with his early 10:30 a.m. lecture on Tuesdays, he agreed to pay the $600 in dues necessary to join the team.

As of press time, Moreno was vomiting off the side of his boat at 4:30 a.m.

“This is going to be a great year,” he said out loud.

Jack in the Box disgraces another culture with new Chicken Tikka Masala nuggets

SAN DIEGO—National fast-food giant Jack in the Box announced plans to disgrace yet another world culture by introducing “Chicken Tikka Masala nuggets” to their menu. The traditional Indian dish will be served deep-fried, on a bed of onion rings with a choice of tartar sauce or honey mustard. “None of us had ever really tried Indian food,” explained Frank Allen, vice president of menu development. “So I just kinda guessed what it probably tasted like.” When asked if Indian customers would be offended by the new menu item, Allen responded, “Yeah, we’ve received some calls. Those guys’ accents are hilarious!”

California Begs Ocean to Put It Out of Its Misery

PLAYA DEL REY, CA—After more than 225 years of existence, California is begging the Pacific Ocean to mercifully end the state’s life. This could mark the end of the landmass, originally part of the super-continent Pangaea. “What’s the point of going on? My economy is in the tank, every-

Report: All the Good Stuff Falling Out of Taco

WEST MALL—A report filed yesterday indicated that all the good stuff was falling out of engineering sophomore Mike Delphino’s Taco Bell taco outside the Student Union. “The poor kid doesn’t even stand a chance,” said advertising freshman Bill Fleming as he watched Delphino attempt to catch the dribble of chili sauce leaking from his taco while marinated chicken fell from the other end. As of press time, only the shredded lettuce remained in the taco while guacamole, sour cream, cheese and chicken lay piled on napkins placed frantically on a table near where the incident first occurred.

Delphino was last seen leaving the area to get a plastic fork from Wendy’s muttering, “It’s not even worth it anymore.”
Colt McCoy & Jordan Shipley

Long Distance Phone Call

McCoy: Hi ship ship!
Shipley: Colty! Did you get my text today?!
McCoy: Yeah, I just watched that episode of The Bill Engvall Show and it's hilarious!
Shipley: Haha, well I didn't get a text back, and I was thinking about you so I just thought I'd call.
McCoy: Ship-a-lip, is everything OK?
Shipley: Yeah…
McCoy: Now Jordan, don't lie to me, you know we can talk about anything.
Shipley: Well it's nothing, it's just, I heard you only throw to Josh Cribbs now in practice, and you used to throw the ball to me all the time and I miss it.
McCoy: Ley! We met in Akron just last week so I could throw the ball to you! You know you'll always be my number one receiver!
Shipley: It's 11:11!
McCoy: Ooooh! Make a wish!
Shipley: …
McCoy: …

Shipley: What did you wish for, Colty?
McCoy: Oh I don't want to ruin it, silly. What did you wish for?
Shipley: Nuh uh, I ain't saying either.
McCoy: OK, we'll saying at the same time.
Shipley: I wished to get traded to the Browns!
McCoy: I wished to get traded to the Bengals!
Shipley/McCoy: Hahahaha!
Shipley: Uh-oh, Coach Mack's on the other line.
Shipley: What he want?
McCoy: Oh nothin', he always likes to call me before he goes to sleep to say good night, this should only take a second.
McCoy: …
Shipley: …
McCoy: OK, back. Coach says hi.
Shipley: I miss him.
McCoy: I miss you too.

Report: Braves organization just realizing Bobby Cox died four years ago

ATLANTA—Team doctor's from the Atlanta Braves organization reported today that long-time manager Bobby Cox in fact died four years ago while sitting on the bench during a game. The would-be 69 year-old manager was left in his seated position for a little more than four seasons without the team noticing. “We always admired how Bobby was always at the field first and was the last to leave,” said John Schuerholz, President of Baseball Operations, “It’s a sad day for baseball.” There's no word on whether the Braves will request any compensation back from the Cox estate for the seasons when he coached the team while deceased, but it's arguable that the MLB’s third winningest manager did indeed earn his salary as he compiled more managerial wins than losses while dead. “Mr. Cox was a great man for our sport,” said a somber Bud Selig, “I guess we could say that he died doing what he loved.”

MLB grants Pittsburgh Pirates use of batting tee for final six games

PITTSBURGH—In an unprecedented move, Major League Baseball has allowed the Pittsburgh Pirates the use of a batting tee in the team's final six games of the 2010 season. “After carefully reviewing our options, giving the Pirates a batting tee seemed the only feasible way to allow them to perform at a level that is consistent with other Major League teams,” commissioner Bud Selig stated at a press conference this week. “We tried more conventional methods first, but these all failed.” These conventional methods included increasing the number of hours Pirates players were required to spend in the team gymnasium, mandatory meetings with a sport's psychiatrist and actually practicing. “Last year was so bad that I think Robert Nutting just picked up a dozen or so guys from the Dominican Republic during his vacation last offseason and put them on the team assuming they would be great at baseball,” Pirates manager John Russell said. “Now we may be last in the league in batting average, but at least we're first in Pedro's.” The batting tee that will be employed is a standard American Little League batting tee normally used for players between the ages of 5 and 9. Made out of a flexible synthetic rubber, there is no risk of any player getting injured by the tee when the Pirates inevitably wind up hitting it further then the ball.
Obama still hasn’t washed hand after shaking hands with junior Tracy Heilman

Jermaine Affonso
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

WASHINGTON—President Obama announced Monday that he has yet to wash his right hand after his encounter with Tracy Heilman, a UT political communication junior, nearly two months ago.

“I still can’t believe I actually got to meet her!” said an uncharacteristically giddy Obama at a press conference. “The second I shook hands with her I knew that I could never wash this hand again!”

Obama, a long time fan of the 19-year-old, first saw her at her at his 2007 campaign rally in Austin, where she stood nearly 90-feet away from the president wearing a white “Hope” t-shirt.

“I was excited when I heard I was returning to Austin, but I really didn’t expect Tracy to come out and watch me speak again,” Obama told reporters. “I guess you can never be sure, so I put on my best hand stitched, custom-designed executive suit, just in case.”

University of Texas students present at Obama’s August speech in Gregory Gymnasium confirmed seeing the president leap from the stage in excitement and quickly push his deliverying his speech from the podium.

Approximately three hours later, Obama posted 22 blurry pictures on his Facebook page in an album entitled “TRACY!!!”

The President’s steadfast support of Heilman has drawn its own share of criticism.

“To be honest, I just don’t understand the hype,” said Minority Leader Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY). “Heilman’s done an unbelievable job the past two years, and I can’t imagine anyone else doing the job of the average U.S. college student better than her.”

The president, however, was unimpressed.

“I’m happy [the democrats] voiced their support,” Obama said. “But, you should know, I’ve been a fan of Tracy for way longer than those other guys.”

College of Fine Arts honors first ever thousandaire

AUSTIN—At a ceremony last night in the Student Services Building auditorium, dean of the College of Fine Arts, Douglas Dempster, honored recent alumnuus Taylor Mitchum, the College’s first ever thousandaire. Mitchum, who graduated with a bachelor’s degree in piano performance in May 2008 from the Butler School of Music, was deemed worthy of the acclaim due to receiving a combined salary of $3,128 since graduation two and a half years ago. “Mitchum is worthy of this recognition and will serve as an inspiration to current Fine Arts students,”beamned Dempster, “We hope that Taylor’s accomplishment will prove to our graduates that it is possible to earn up to several thousand dollars with your degree from the Fine Arts college.” As of press time, Mitchum is back at work cleaning slime out of the freezers. at Baskin Robbin’s.

Tyra Banks Set to Interview Tyra Banks, Talk More About Tyra Banks

NEW YORK — In a press conference organized by Tyra Banks, Tyra Banks announced to the world that Tyra Banks has more plans to talk about Tyra Banks, despite the recent cancellation of her hit daytime talk show, “The Tyra Banks Show.” “Tyra Banks is an inspiration to girls all around the world. Who else is an actress, singer, former model and businesswoman? Tyra Banks still has more to say about Tyra Banks,” Banks said, in a self-described “fierce” announcement. “When Tyra was thirteen years old” Banks continued “Modeling agencies constantly told her that she was too beautiful to become a model. Now look at me. No, seriously, look at me! Why aren’t you looking at me?” Tension mounted in the room when Banks forced reporters to remain in their seats as she tried on various bikinis and evening wear. “Tyra Banks knows that Tyra Banks looks great for Tyra Banks’ age,” she said.
Texas Travesty Interview

Edgar Wright, Michael Cera, and Jason Schwartzman of Scott Pilgrim vs. The World

Scott Pilgrim vs. The World is the major motion picture based on the cult-favorite graphic novels by Bryan Lee O’Malley. Director Edgar Wright (also known for Hot Fuzz and Shaun of the Dead), and stars Michael Cera (Arrested Development, Superbad, Juno, Youth in Revolt) and Jason Schwartzman (Rushmore, The Darjeeling Limited, Funny People) sat down with the Travesty to joke about being superheroes (and villains), playing music, and Comicon. If you haven’t seen Scott Pilgrim yet, consider going as soon as you can.

Texas Travesty: So let’s get this ball rolling: The different exes in the film have their weaknesses, that Scott defeats them with, how would you be defeated? What is your foil?

Jason Schwartzman: This is already off to the best start, because we’ve never been asked this question. Let’s see, what’s my weakness?

Edgar Wright: Oh tickling. Somebody tickle me, I’d be fucked.

Michael Cera: Yeah.

EW: That’s the best sentence I’ve come up with all day. MC: Actually tickling is a really good answer. JS: Like in a fight? EW: I bet you could take Brandon Routh out if you start tickling him. MC: If someone choked me and squeezed my neck so hard that it completely deflated, I wouldn’t know what to do. JS: If somebody tried to bury me alive… MC: Tried to?

JS: If someone picked me up and carried me over the shoulders and was like “I’m going to bury you alive in ten minutes I’d be like “No! No! No!”

MC: That’s the worst. It’s worse than the actual being buried alive.

JS: You know that moment before someone picks you up when you’re little and pretends to throw you into the pool? You know that feeling? That’s what my life has been like for the last thirty years.

MC: You know when you’re a kid and someone uses your neck as an ashtray? (laughter)

JS: The other thing would be hair pulling. I hate hair pulling. MC: I hate when they smash your face on the toilet and then they slide the seat on top of it.

TT: Speaking from past experiences?

MC: The past ten minutes.

JS: You wanted it? You got it.

TT: On the flip side, if you were a super hero, what would be your super hero name and super power?

MC: [to Jason] You had a really good one.

JS: I did?

MC: Yeah yours was The UltraSound.

JS: How do I do that?

MC: You can walk up and look into women’s stomachs.

TT: Did you guys get to hang out with the music artists who recorded for the movie at all? Beck? Metric?

EW: In some cases. Beck… Michael still never met Beck, actually. Beck did his stuff in LA kind of nine months before we started shooting. We hung out with the Toronto bands a bunch because they were around on set a lot. [We hung out with] Kevin Drew from Broken Social Scene, Chris Murphy from Sloan was our kind of music coach and Emily Haines from Metric. Those guys were around. The vocals that Michael, Mark, Allison and Brie Larson recorded for the songs were done in Metric’s home studio. So we were in their home studio. It was really cool. It was nice being sort of tapped into the scene.

TT: What did you do to bring these characters off the page and onto the screen?

MC: We rehearsed a lot.

EW: Yeah.

MC: Did some fight training and choreography, music training but the rehearsal was most helpful stuff for me. Watching all the other actors find their characters was really fun and also really exciting.

TT: Did you play your music?

MC: No, except when I play the song to her. Otherwise, all the music was prerecorded by Beck, we were just syncing along to it.

EW: You did the vocals on it.

MC: Mark Weber redid Beck’s vocals.

JS: Did Nigel produce that stuff?

EW: No, Beck produced the music on his own and Nigel did the vocals.

Mark weber who’s not a singer had to sing the first time in front of Nigel Godrich. Jesus Louisisus. That’s insane.

MC: I’d be pretty nervous.

TT: So Jason, what was it like to play a villain?

Find out the answer and read the rest at texastravesty.com

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Lightly Battered Salad with Battered Croutons and Heavily Battered Ranch Dressing
For the ladies.

Lightly Battered Bloom-Style Battered Onion and Special Chipotle Sauce
The Awesome Blossom from Chili’s, but fried again.

Entrees

Lightly Battered Fried Chicken
A thrice battered chicken is available for a nominal fee.

Lightly Battered Lean Pocket
Choice of ham and cheese or cheeseburger variety.

Lightly Battered Boeuf Bourguignon
We aren’t sure what this is.

Healthy Options

Deserts & Beverages

Lightly Battered Blow Pops
A traditional Blow Pop fried throughout from stick to gum. Immaculate.

Lightly Battered Water
To assist in the recovery from your fried-beer-induced dehydration.

Lightly Battered Tickets
All tickets presented to our staff are promptly fried and returned to our loyal customers for consuming.

Lightly Battered Bloom-Style Battered Onion and Special Chipotle Sauce
A fried stick of butter.

Lightly Battered Blow Pops
A traditional Blow Pop fried throughout from stick to gum. Immaculate.

Lightly Battered Water
To assist in the recovery from your fried-beer-induced dehydration.

Lightly Battered Tickets
All tickets presented to our staff are promptly fried and returned to our loyal customers for consuming.

The vast, green hills; scattered with dancing bluebonnets and daisies.

Cow’s grazing, birds flying, squirrels muzzling

Why can’t we just dispose the bluebonnets together?

They think I’m full of hot air, but I really do think there is so much beauty in this world.

I think I might collapse in awe—did someone turn my fan off?

The impartial silence is tarnished by the bells of disdain:

So sad to see my children fight like this.

Burnt orange, are red.

They come with anger in their hearts, in their souls.

A butterfly lands on my wrist.

Blissfully unaware of the tension pouring through the land’s veins.

Below me, butter fries until crisp.

My children fill themselves with impurities of the earth.

They endorse themselves with alcohol.

I breathe the musty smell of drunkards.

I see young and old eat the vessels of fried meats and sweets.

Why fry beer, my children? Why?

I feel the lead interred with garbage and misplaced dignity.

As I look into the heaven, my burden grows.

The clock strikes 10:30.

WAYDY TOOKES! WELCOME TO THE STATE FAIR OF TEXAS!

My shoulders are light again.
**Texas Travesty Interview**

**Jesse Eisenberg of The Social Network**

TT: How was it working with David Fincher and Aaron Sorkin? What was it like for you?

JE: It was a great thrill and honor. I loved Aaron Sorkin’s work since I was very little. I taped every episode of *Sports Night* and would watch them over and over again. Primarily because of the writing. The dialogue was so unique and interesting and was not only entertaining but as a very young actor of 13 years old I thought the roles were so interesting. And yet they really didn’t need to be, because the storylines were so fascinating. Similarly, in this movie, it’s about something so topical and significant, and yet the characters are so interesting.

Similarly with David Fincher I’d always watched his movies and been in awe of them because they’re so unique looking. I was surprised to see that he was as interested in actors as he is visually.

TT: Wow. Now, did you have a favorite scene while working on the movie?

JE: Well, the movie kind of takes place during the creation of Facebook at Harvard, and then four years later in these deposition room scenes where my character is being sued by two different parties. I really enjoyed shooting these deposition scenes, because my character is really able to relieve himself of a lot of the anger he has stored up, during the accusations of theft and betrayal. And I really get to defend myself pretty explicitly. As an actor you’re constantly wanting to defend your character’s position, but the script doesn’t frequently defend it so explicitly. So that was a great relief.

TT: Are you more of a Farmville or Zombies person?

JE: These are what? Applications? Games?

TT: Yeah applications.

JE: Yeah I’ve heard about these, people spend hours and hours creating a fake farm? Yeah it seems interesting, I’m sure I would do that. I’m not on Facebook but I used to play “Sim City” as a kid.
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In these tough economic times, decisions that were once easily made now take on tremendous importance. Richards Engineering Project Manager George Hartford was faced with one of these choices as he sped along Guadalupe Street in Austin, Texas.

On his way into the office, Hartford spotted a bicyclist crossing the intersection. The decision was as clear as it was controversial: Would he continue driving at full speed or would he attempt to brake, knowing that the additional wear-and-tear on his brakes generated by emergency braking could cost him thousands in brake repairs?

“No one ever tells you how to deal with a situation like that — every day I worry about costly brake repairs — so I had to think fast,” Hartford told the Travesty. “Ultimately I just couldn’t afford to brake for the bicycle.”

Hartford’s dilemma is one that is being faced by more and more Americans every day. Over 34 percent of motorists pay, on average, $428 on auto maintenance due to stopping for crossing cyclists.

The phenomenon is being studied by noted economist Steven Levitt, author of Freakonomics, who reports interesting findings: “I noticed that tide patterns off the coast of Hawaii were correlating with rising automotive repair costs. I’m writing a chapter about it for my new book, ‘Yeah, That Makes Sense.’”

Beyond damage to braking systems, vehicle suspension and handling may also be compromised in efforts to evade cyclists.

Noted financial analyst Correll Blynn told the Travesty, “Over the past three quarters, automotive costs, specifically the cost of brake pads, have skyrocketed and mechanical damage related to attempting to not plow into crossing cyclists appears to be the most prevalent reason,” Blynn said, adding that “if America wants to pull itself out of this recession, please, for the love of god, stop stopping for cyclists.”

by Slate Rogers
Lead Investigator
The PCL

Scuff M.

The Dissertation section of the PCL is pretty much a hostel for us; sometimes you can stay there for a month straight. Trust me, nobody will bother you in there except the occasional wayward Ph D. Another plus is that the dissertations themselves are perfect kindling for garbage fires. On the downside, the hand soap in the bathroom is a little too viscous to wash all the grime off of your body, but luckily, the toilets are regularly cleaned so you can use them as a foot bath.

Veggie Heaven

Marcus J.

And we were heading straight into the heart of Vietcong territory when my Meemaw called me. She started talking about how they were all so worried about me back at home. They had a Dewberry pie waiting for me. That’s when Bubbs was shot.

Jack in the Box

Hawk

I’VE NEVER SEEN SUCH OVERPRICED FOOD IN MY LIFE. $1.99 for a BURGER? Christ, they act like this is Chili’s or something. I remember back when you could get a burger, malt, and fries for $.10. Plus the staff will always look at you funny when you go in. Like they’re soooo much better because they aren’t drinking cough syrup?

ON THE POSITIVE SIDE: Unlimited free napkins, free ketchup, free straws to chew on if you’re bored. For all these things, unless you buy something, you’ve got to be real sneaky about it.

That Patch of Grass by Trudy’s

Jim E.

It’s a pretty good patch of grass. There’s a tree that will provide shade if it’s hot outside. It’s next to a creek if you need a drink. Some people on their way to get coffee will take pity on you. Maybe you could get a meal if you sit out there long enough.

Starbucks

Jerry

I’m really into yelling at people, so the Starbucks at 24th and San Antonio is one of my favorite spots in Austin. There’s a constant stream of customers sitting on the large patio, which gives me a great opportunity to sit outside with them and just scream like crazy. I couldn’t recommend this place more for the homeless person that enjoys to yell gibberish.
You know, 3 A.M. is actually pretty good for a Matchbox Twenty Song

Rob Thomas
LEAD SINGER OF MATCHBOX 20

You hear that, guys? They're playing 3 A.M. by Matchbox Twenty. It's definitely been a while since I've heard this one. You know, I think 3 A.M. is actually passably listenable for a Matchbox Twenty song.

Now I'm not saying it's the best song ever. But when you think about it, it's pretty damn catchy. Sure the lyrics are a little hokey and the guitar is really repetitive, but it really doesn't sound that bad.

Aww shit! Here comes the chorus! "She says Babyyyyy! Its 3 A.M., I must be lonely!"

I'm no Matchbox Twenty fan or anything—far from it, in fact this is probably the only song we recorded that I can even tolerate. Do you remember that one song that went like: "I should get some sleep, because tomorrow might be good for something. Hold on feeling like I'm heading for a break down and I dunno why. I'm not crazy, I'm just a little unwell."

Honestly, what the hell does that shit even mean?

Don't look at me like that, guys, you know you like this song. Like I said before, it's pretty damn catchy.

Oh yeah! Here we go again... everyone this time! "She says Babyyyyy! Its 3 A.M., I must be lonely!"

Look, I don't consider myself some sort of musical elitist or anything but I really can't comprehend how we were so popular. Seriously, when I took a second to reflect on our music for five minutes I realized that it was the most watered-down, formulaic crap ever written. And I'm pretty sure we won a Grammy or something. Seriously, how derivative is a song like "Bent."

"Can you help me I'm bent, I'm so scared that I'll never get put back together. God, who writes this stuff?"

Alright guys this is it! It's the last one! "She says Babyyyyy! Its 3 A.M., I must be lonely!" Well, heaven she says, 'Baby, well, I can't help but be scared of it all sometimes and the rain's gonna wash away what I believe in."

Someone told me the other day that we're releasing new album. I couldn't believe people still buy into this cookie-cutter shit! Didn't I have a solo career too? I'd hate to be the poor sap that paid for that album. I remember that song I did with Carlos Santana. I just vomited in my mouth a little bit.

Our food has been cancerous and heart-attack inducing since way before this whole oil spill thing

Lonnie Wilson
JOE'S CRAB SHACK REPRESENTATIVE

As a result of the controversial oil spill in our nation's Gulf Coast this summer, several doctors and government officials have strongly advised Americans to use caution when consuming shrimp, oysters, crabs and other seafood items. The reason for this is the long term health risks associated with consuming oil-riddled food, such as heart disease and cancer.

We at Joe's Crab Shack understand the concern, but we want to assure our customers that our food has been cancerous and heart-attack inducing since long before the Gulf Coast's oil spill.

Joe's was founded in 1994, and for over 15 years, we have never needed an oil spill to ensure that our food is toxic to people's health. To guarantee this, we have always been dedicated preparing our cuisine from the lowest quality and least organic ingredients possible. In these doubtful moments, our chefs work especially hard to render Joe's Crab Shack customers vulnerable to preventable coronary disease.

Our hand selected menu of such delicacies as the battered shrimp bucket topped with salted oysters and viscous butter sauce are crafted to form malignant tumors in all areas of the body. Additionally, our children's menu provides a worthy selection of bland sea fare to develop unhealthy, obesity inciting eating habits from an early age.

People generally regard seafood as a healthier alternative to fatty red meats, but we don't let that stop us from filling our customers up with only the lowest quality of life sucking filth. Why else would we serve an enchilada filled with breaded crab meat, shrimp and 120 grams of trans-fat. In fact, studies have shown that our food is capable of greatly impairing the health of even the most active adult males.

We would also like to assure our customers that Joe's does not use seafood from the Gulf Coast. In fact, we barely use any real food at all. But we personally guarantee that the material we serve our customers is hand selected by our chefs to cause just the right level of build-up in our their arteries, because that's what you paid for, and that's why we're still here.

So, America, I would like to remind you all once again to "Eat at Joe's!" because we refuse to let some oil spill kill our customers before we can do it ourselves.
If you’re going to work for a business one day, like, why don’t you just major in it?

Shelly Pollack
LOGICAL BUSINESS MAJOR

I don’t understand why people have such a hard time finding out what they want to major in. I mean, just think about it. If you’re going to work for a business one day, like, why don’t you just major in it? It’s not like deciding which pants suit you should wear with my new earrings. Our book told us that’s how you let others know you mean business and get promoted.

Some of my friends major in biology and it just doesn’t make any sense to me. Think about it, even if you are a scientist, who do you think you’re working for? Um, I’ll give you a hint. It’s a business. Duh.

Another one of my friends decided to major in sociology? Why would you get a degree in being social? Just go to a mixer or something.

Anyways, Benthany hasn’t had to make a single PowerPoint presentation since she’s been in college and I’m super sad for her because I don’t know how she’s going to be successful in life and buy a Lexus SUV. PowerPoints are part of business, the biggest part, and I’ve learned everything about them in business school.

Employers must have created the College of Liberal Arts as a method to weed out the students that don’t mean business and want to be poor and liberal.

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Go write a paper on feelings, losers. I’ll be busy adjusting this Excel document and being your boss in two years.

Roy Hinkle
HOMELESS WARRIOR

So we meet again, Mr. Grackle! This isn’t the first time our paths have crossed; you shan’t get the best of me today. I have prepared long and hard for this encounter. I will pass this test. I found this spoiled, half-eaten Quarter Pounder with Cheese first. It is my bounty, and I will not let you soil it any more. Answer me this, Grackle, do you plan on sacrificing your body and well-being for this sandwich? For I do!

Oh, you are a clever one, foe of mine, but you will pay for your trespasses. I will make sure of it. Don’t just sit there and stare at me, plotting with those soulless eyes. I refuse to be bested again!

Counterpoint: Caw! Caw!

Grackle
FLYING NEMESIS

Caw! Caw!

Point: So we meet again, Mr. Grackle

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PRE-PARTY HALLOWEEN WITH A SHOT OF COMEDY AT THE
ANNUAL TEXAS TRAVESTY
FALL COMEDY FEST
THURSDAY, OCT. 28TH
AT JAX NEIGHBORHOOD CAFE
2828 RIO GRANDE (ACROSS FROM TOY JOY)
8 PM
FREE ADMISSION
YOU’LL HAVE MORE FUN THAN THIS CAT.